(c) Use of natural gas is determined by the need to optimise its use, given the variety of uses to which gas can be put and the alternatives available to gas for such uses.

Setting up a centre for development for electricity Co-operatives

2404. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a centre for development of electricity co-operatives ; and

(b) if so, what is the main purpose of setting up such co-operatives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene in West Bengal

2405. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand of kerosene in West Bengal during the period Jan.'89 to June '89 monthwise :

(b) what is the total central allocation and actual supply to the State ; and

(c) what are the reasons for this acute crisis of kerosene in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) to (c) The Kerosene requirements of States and UTs including West Bengal are assessed by allowing suitable growth rate over the allocation made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocation adhoc releases are also given to meet specific situations like floods, drought, shortage of LPG, etc.

2. Allocation of kerosene to West Bengal from January to June, 1989 has been made in accordance with the above policy. The State Government had requested for enhancement of State's allocation. This was considered and keeping in view the availability of product, a quantity of 1000 tonnes each for March and June, 1989 was allocated.

3. The details of the allocation and supplies of SKO made to West Bengal during January to June, 1989 are given below ;—

(Figures in tonnes)

Month	Regular allocation	Adhoc allocation	Total allocation	Releases
Jan. 89	58900	..	58900	59394
Feb. 89	58900	..	58900	59068
March 89	56460	1000	57460	58070
April 89	56460	..	56460	56835
May 89	56460	..	56460	56980
June 89	56460	1000	57460	Not available.

Allocation for the Monsoon Block (July to Oct. 89) has also been made at the rate of 54170 tonnes per month.

4. The allocation of kerosene to West Bengal made in accordance with the existing policy is, by and large, considered adequate to meet the demand of the genuine consumers in the State.

5. The above policy is proposed to be continued during the Winter Block.

Computerised billing in Delhi Municipal area

2406. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that with the introduction of the system of computerised billing of electricity Bills for Delhi Municipal area the bills are not correctly prepared and are sent to the consumers without any check with the result that Government are losing lakhs of rupees and the consumers are also put to inconvenience ; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) According to DBSU, normally the electricity bills are prepared correctly on their in-house computer. The computeised bills are also subjected to sample checking before issue. There is no revenue loss to DESU, as the position of consumer dues is reviewed constantly. The percentage of error in the computerised bills has been considerably brought down by imparting training to the computer and other billing staff.

Super Thermal Power Station at Chandrapur in Maharashtra

2407. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Super Thermal Power Station of N.T.P.C. in Chandrapur District of Maharashtra has been held up for want of clearance certificate from the Environment Department of Maharashtra;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the clearance certificate for coal linkage for the above project has also not been provided by the Coal India Limited ;

(c) what are the difficulties being faced by the State Government's Environment Department and Coal India Ltd. to accord clearance to the project ;

(d) what measures Government propose to take to ensure that the project is not delayed merely for want of sanction of coal linkage and environmental approval ;

(e) whether Government have made any povision for the project in the Eighth Plan period ; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) Further processing of the proposed Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station to be executed by the National Thermal Power Corporation in Maharashtra was held up due to the non-availability of the requisite coal linkage from the Wardha Valley Coalfields and clearance from the environmental angle including that from the State Pollution Control Board. The matter has been taken up with the